

Tree Committee

June 16, 2016

Minutes

Present: Karen Doherty, Jim Backus, Dennis Swartwout, Ted Boulais, Mike Lamontagne, Linda Young. Guest: Bobbie Salthouse

Minutes of March 17th were approved as presented unanimously.

Kelly has agreed to stay on another year. Yeah!

Dennis and Janice Stone will walk the area of the proposed new tree farm and get back to us.

Karen had e-mailed Joe Rodio, Library Director, about the mulch volcanoes around the trees at the library and the damage that is being done to them. Joe indicated that other people have mentioned this as well. Mountainview is the landscaper responsible for the heavy mulching. The Mount Holyoke College campus is mulching successfully and is a good model to follow.

Spring Tree Planting Days and other issues - we planted 30 trees and Ted is doing an absolutely outstanding job of watering all over town. Kelly has offered to help water at Mosier School. For next year we need to reach out to the high school and colleges in our area for further help. Also the older Boy Scouts might help as well though we did have a younger group of Girl Scouts with whom we had a good time. Thanks to Kelly for arranging this.

We need to approach the Selectboard though about the number of vehicles that drive and park all over the Town Common especially on Thursdays for the Farmers Market and Concerts. The trees are dying in part because of the compacted surface.

The three crabapples that we planted last year at Mosier School got weedwhacked and are dying (if not already dead).

Linda will get two tree huggers for the trees behind the Senior Center and see if she can submit them for reimbursement through the Cumberland Farm Tree Funds. We will also look to buy a rain barrel from Vi at the Transfer Station for Ted to put on the back of his truck for watering Town trees. This was moved and unanimously approved.

The Tree Planting application will be sent to us by Karen, and Linda will get them back into the Library and Town Hall. We need to get this form on our website.

Mike Lamontagne will represent the Tree Committee at the Bike/Walk's Sept. 18th trek to the Black Stevens Conservation Area and talk about the trees and shrubs along the trek.

Tree City USA celebration was on the 15th and Karen represented us well. Chris Ryan was there for the first part.

Inventory: Chris and Dennis met with Molly and she is willing to do a lot for us. Karen is putting the trees Chris has inventoried into her Excel program. Mike is also doing some inventory.

Karen was thanked profusely for all of her efforts on behalf of the Tree Committee. She has made an excellent Chair and will be very much missed as her knowledge is beyond imagination.

Linda will organize the agenda for the **next meeting** which will be held on **Thursday, August 18th at 6:30 at the Library**. Reorganization of officers will take place at that time.

Motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Young, Clerk